



II

BOLDON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

for the year 1967

H. C. WEIR, *M.A., M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.*

BOLDON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

**ANNUAL
REPORT**

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

for the year 1967

H. C. WEIR, *M.A., M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.*

CONTENTS

	Page
Committees	3
Preface	4
Section A —Statistics of the Area.	
(a) General Statistics	6
(b) Physical and Social	6
(c) Vital Statistics	7
Section B —General Provision of Health Services.	
(a) Public Health Services	10
(b) Local Health Authority Services	10
(c) Hospital Services	14
(d) Executive Council	14
Section C —Sanitary Circumstances of the Area	15
Section D —Housing in the Area	22
Section E —Food Hygiene	23
Section F —Prevalence and Control of Infectious and Other Diseases	26

Boldon Urban District Council 1967

Chairman

Councillor T. Brown.

Vice-Chairman: Councillor L. Hannah.

MEMBERS

Boldon Colliery Ward

Coun. J. R. Pears.
Coun. E. O. Telford.

East Boldon Ward

Coun. J. C. G. Durham.
Coun. J. J. Berryman.

Whitburn Ward

Coun. S. Robinson.
Coun. L. Hannah.
Coun. R. H. Burdsall.

New Town (Boldon Colliery) Ward

Coun. Mrs. M. Gibson.
Coun. O. Clark.
Coun. H. Scott.

West Boldon Ward

Coun. J. Roberts.

Whitburn Colliery Ward

Coun. W. Easton.

Cleadon Ward

Coun. T. Brown.
Coun. J. Tate.

CHAIRMAN OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE

Coun. Mrs. M. Gibson.

UNITED DISTRICTS OF JARROW, HEBBURN, FELLING AND BOLDON

Coun. L. Hannah.
Coun. E. O. Telford.

Coun. Mrs. M. Gibson.
Coun. H. Scott.

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL No. 5 AREA HEALTH SUB-COMMITTEE

Coun. Mrs. M. Gibson.
Coun. L. Hannah.

Coun. E. O. Telford.

PREFACE

Telephone: Boldon 7241/2.

Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
East Boldon,
County Durham.

To the Chairman and Members of the Boldon Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health, on the health of the Urban District and the work of the Health Department for the year 1967.

The Health Statistics are set out in detail in the body of the report; there are however, certain features on which I should like to comment.

The population of the Urban District fell during the year by 3,360 to 22,760, this was due to the transfer of the Hedworth Estate to the Borough of Jarrow. The natural increase, i.e. excess of births over deaths, fell by 56. The birth rate showed a decrease to 16.8 per 1,000 population compared with 17.7 in 1966, the standardized birth rate (i.e. corrected for age and sex distribution of the population) was 15.6 compared with the national figure of 17.2.

The Infant Mortality Rate showed a decrease to 12.6 per 1,000 live births from 13.2 in 1966, this is well below the national figure of 19.3 for England and Wales. Of the 5 infant deaths, 2 were caused by Congenital Abnormalities, and 3 by other diseases.

There were 234 deaths in 1967 with a death rate of 10.28 which compares favourably with 1966 although the standardized death rate of 11.4 was more than 11.2 for England and Wales. Heart Disease was the most important cause of death with 67 deaths. The deaths from Lung Cancer were down, and I am glad to report that Clean Air Zones are now starting in Boldon. The most common single cause of death was Coronary Disease, which accounted for 27 male and 26 female deaths; this is a reduction on the mortality from this disease from the previous year. Deaths from Respiratory Disease were less this year, but there was an increase in deaths from Vascular Diseases, and those from Cancer decreased considerably.

There was a decrease in the number of cases of infectious disease notified during the year; this was mainly accounted for by the decrease in Measles notifications, with 30 cases compared

with 128 during the previous year. Further references to infectious disease will be found in Section F of the report.

This is the Fifth Annual Report which I have the honour of presenting to you since my appointment as Medical Officer of Health. I wish, therefore, to conclude by expressing my most sincere appreciation of the assistance and co-operation I have received from all Members of the Council, Council Officials, and members of my staff in the Health Department.

H. C. WEIR,
Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A

STATISTICS OF THE AREA

(a) GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of the district in acres—7,344.
Estimated resident population—22,760.
Number of inhabited houses—7,727.
Number of Council houses—2,848.
Number of Council houses erected during the year—48.
Number of private houses erected during the year—56.
Rateable Value at 31st December, 1967—£670,325.
Sum represented by a penny rate—£2,900 10s. 3d.

(b) PHYSICAL AND SOCIAL

1. Description of the area.

The Urban District covers an area of 7,344 acres and is essentially rural in character with more than 50 farms or other agricultural premises. It forms a green belt between South Tyne-side and North Wearside and is roughly rectangular in shape extending inland from the North Sea coast for a distance of over six miles. In this setting there are the following five communities, Whitburn, Cleadon, East Boldon, West Boldon, and Boldon Colliery; the last of these is largely industrial and accommodates approximately one-third of the total population of the Urban District. The remainder of the Urban District is to a large extent residential and many of the inhabitants are employed outside the district.

2. Employment

Mr. T. H. Elliott, Manager of the Employment Exchange, has kindly supplied the following information relating to employment, unemployment and disablement.

MAIN INDUSTRIES

The Main Industries are: Coalmining, Electrical Manufactures, Building and Agriculture.

There are 40 employers in the Urban District with 3,708 employees (3,376 men and 332 women).

UNEMPLOYMENT

On the 6th December, 1967, the position was as follows:—

			Total on Register	Temporarily Stopped
Females	....	....	11	—
Males	....	....	190	5
			<hr/> 201 <hr/>	<hr/> 5 <hr/>

DISABLEMENT

There are 143 males and 11 females on the register of disabled persons. There were 19 men and no women unemployed.

All the above figures are in respect of persons over 18 years of age.

(c) EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births

	M.	F.	Total 1967	Total 1966
Total	208	189	397	453
Legitimate	201	181	382	429
Illegitimate	7	8	15	24
Birth Rate		16.8		
Comparability factor		0.93		
Standardized Birth Rate		15.6		
Illegitimate Live Births (per cent of total live births)		3.8		

Still Births

	M.	F.	1967	1966
Total	4	5	9	9
Legitimate	4	5	9	7
Illegitimate	—	—	—	2
Rate per thousand live and still births		22.1		
Rate per thousand estimated resident population		0.38		
Total live and still births			406	462

Deaths

	M.	F.	1967	1966
All Causes	107	127	234	267
Death Rate		10.28		
Comparability Factor		1.11		
Standardised Death Rate		11.4		

Principal Causes of Death

	M.	F.	Total 1967	Total 1966	% of total deaths 1967	% of total deaths 1966
Heart disease (all types)	33	34	67	67	28.6	25.1
Cancer (all types)	21	21	42	59	17.9	22.1
Respiratory Disease	11	13	24	31	10.3	1.5
Vascular Disease of Nervous System	15	30	45	42	19.2	15.7

Infant Mortality

	M.	F.	Total 1967	Total 1966
Under 1 Year of Age				
Total	4	1	5	6
Legitimate	4	1	5	5
Illegitimate	—	—	—	1
Death rate of infants under 1 year of age:—				
All infants per 1,000 live births			12.6	
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births			12.6	
Illegitimate live births			Nil	
	M.	F.	Total 1967	Total 1966
Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age:—				
Total	4	1	5	5
Legitimate	4	1	5	4
Illegitimate	—	—	—	1

Neo-Natal Death Rate

(i.e. Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks per 1,000 live births)
12.6

Deaths of Infants under one week:—

	M.	F.	Total 1967	Total 1966
Total	4	—	4	4
Legitimate	4	—	4	3
Illegitimate	—	—	—	1
Early neo-natal mortality rate	10.1			

Causes of Infant Deaths

Congenital Malformations	2
Defined and ill-defined diseases	3
	5

		1967	1966
Perinatal Mortality rate	32		28.6
Maternal Mortality rate (including abortion)			
Number of Deaths	Nil		Nil
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	Nil		Nil

Comparison of Vital Statistics

	England & Wales		Baldon	
	1967	1966	1967	1966
Standardised Birth Rate	17.2	17.7	15.6	16.5
Infant Mortality	18.3	19.0	12.3	13.2
Still Birth Rate	14.8	15.4	22.1	19.5
Standardised Death Rate	11.2	11.7	11.4	11.5

CAUSES OF DEATH, 1967

	Male	Female	Total 1967	Comparison with 1966	
				+	—
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	—	—	—	—	16
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	1	1	2	2	—
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	5	3	8	4	—
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	5	4	9	—	6
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	—	3	3	—	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	—	1	1	—	2
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	11	10	21	—	10
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	—	—	—	—	2
Diabetes	—	1	1	—	—
Vascular Lesions of nervous systems	15	30	45	3	—
Coronary Disease, Angina	27	26	53	—	9
Hypertension with Heart Disease	—	1	1	1	—
Other Heart Disease	6	7	13	8	—
Other Circulatory Disease	1	4	5	—	10
Pneumonia	2	8	10	—	4
Bronchitis	8	4	12	—	1
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1	1	2	—	2
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	2	—	2	—	—
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	—	—	—	—	4
Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	1	2	1	—
Hyperplasia of Prostate	2	—	2	1	—
Congenital Malformations	1	2	3	—	—
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	11	11	22	—	7
Motor vehicle accidents	2	—	2	—	1
All other accidents	4	9	13	8	—
Suicide	2	—	2	—	2
	107	127	232	28	79

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

(a) PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

Staff of Health Department:—

Medical Officer of Health,

H. C. WEIR, M.A., M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.,
M.R.S.H., F.R.I.P.H.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector,

R. W. ARMSTRONG, M.A.P.H.I., A.M.I.P.H.E.

Additional Public Health Inspector,

J. HEMSLEY, M.A.P.H.I.

Clerk,

MRS. B. L. BURDON.

Rodent Operator,

P. C. T. JACKSON.

2. Laboratory Services

Bacteriological examinations are undertaken by the Public Health Laboratory, Havelock Hospital, Hylton Road, Sunderland, which is under the direction of Dr. P. B. Crone. The results and numbers of specimens for the year 1967 are as follows:—

	Pos.	Neg.	Total
Faeces and Urine	23	28	51

3. National Assistance Act, 1948

Section 47—Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

No action was necessary during the year.

Section 50—Burial or Cremation of Dead.

No action was necessary during the year.

(b) LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY SERVICES

Under the National Health Service Act, 1949, Part III, the Personal Health Services are provided by Durham County Council and administered through the Area Health Sub-Committee on which Boldon U.D.C. is represented by three members.

CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

(Section 22)

Ante-Natal

The following figures show the number of expectant mothers who attended the Clinics, and the number of visits which these mothers paid to the Clinics.

Number of Mothers	....	....	72
Attendances	....	....	348

Child Welfare

Sessions: Alternate Mondays and Tuesday mornings at the Child Welfare Clinic, Boker Lane, East Boldon.

Thursdays at the Barnes Institute, Whitburn.

Alternate Mondays at the Church Hall, Cleadon.

The following table shows the number of infants and toddlers who attended the Clinics and the number of attendances of these children throughout the year.

	No. of Children			Attendances		
	Under 1	1-2 yrs.	2-5 yrs.	Under 1	1-2 yrs.	2-5 yrs.
Whitburn	94	96	208	933	326	368
Boldon	162	194	342	1755	553	636
Cleadon	55	66	176	680	214	285

MIDWIFERY

(Section 25)

There are 3 County Midwives in Boldon. No midwives practice privately in the area.

During the year they attended 168 confinements, which represents 44 per cent. of all registered live and still births.

Domiciliary Confinements

	Booked	Not Booked		Analgesia	
		Gas & Air	Pethidine	Trilene	
Present at delivery	53	18	40	32	
Not present	115	106	97	—	
	<hr/> 168	<hr/> —	<hr/> 124	<hr/> 137	<hr/> 32

HEALTH VISITING

(Section 24)

Four Health Visitors serve the Urban District. The following domiciliary visits were paid during 1967.

Maternity and Child Welfare	....	....	5,932
Tuberculosis	....	....	78
Mental Deficiency	....	....	128
Schools	....	....	113
General Health	....	....	46
Aged People	....	....	479
			<hr/> 6,776

The percentage of ineffective visits made was 15.17 per cent.

HOME NURSING

(Section 25)

The following visits were made by Home Nurses in the area.

				Cases	Visits
Medical	....	....	....	212	6677
Surgical	....	....	....	64	1995
Tuberculosis	....	....	....	13	719
Others	....	....	....	2	46
Total				291	9437

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

(Section 26)

The following tables give the number of children vaccinated and immunised at the clinics and by General Practitioners in the district.

SMALLPOX VACCINATION

Under 1	1-4	5-15	Under 16	1-15	16 and over	Total
24	178	16	—	4	—	4

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

(given either singly or in combination)

Primary Injections				Reinforcing Doses		
Under 1	1-4	5-15	Total	1-4	5-16	Total
140	209	63	412	229	291	520

WHOOPIING COUGH IMMUNISATION

(given either singly or in combination)

Primary Injections				Reinforcing Doses		
Under 1	1-4	5-15	Total	1-4	5-16	Total
140	200	5	349	218	28	246

TETANUS IMMUNISATION

(given with Diphtheria or Diphtheria/Whooping Cough)

Primary Injections				Reinforcing Doses		
Under 1	1-4	5-15	Total	1-4	5-16	Total
140	209	65	414	228	286	514

B.C.G. VACCINATION

Number of children skin tested	....	....	184
Number of children positive	....	....	14
Number of children negative	....	....	155
Number absent at time of reading	....	....	15

AMBULANCE SERVICE

All requests for ambulance transport should be made to the Ambulance Control Centre, telephone Durham 4488.

HEBBURN DEPOT

Journeys	Stretcher	Sitting	Total	Mileage
9403	4405	33049	37454	195331
No. of Ambulances			10	
No. of Drivers			27	

PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER-CARE (Section 28)

Cases discharged from hospital and requiring after-care are treated by home nurses or supervised and advised by the Health Visitors. Sick room equipment such as urine bottles, bed pans, bed rests, air cushions, mattresses, and rubber sheeting can be had on loan.

During the year 99 persons received equipment on loan.

DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE

(Section 29)

No. of Home Helps employed	....	....	....	....	44
No. of cases attended at 1.1.67	....	....	....	....	86
No. of new cases provided with Home Helps	....	....	....	....	74
No. of cases attended at 31.1.67	....	....	....	....	102
Type of cases served:—					
Old Age Pensioners	....	....	....	....	151
Sickness	....	....	....	....	4
Tuberculosis	....	....	....	....	2
Maternity	....	....	....	....	3
					160

MENTAL HEALTH ACT, 1959

Mental Subnormal

Under Supervision	....	....	....	....	57
In Hospital	....	....	....	....	18

Mentally Ill

Formal and Informal admissions arranged by					
Mental Welfare Officers	....	....	....	....	6
Children notified during the years as:—					
Ineducable	....	....	....	....	2
Requiring supervision after leaving school	....	....	....	....	—

(c) HOSPITAL SERVICES

The only Hospital situated in the Urban District is Boldon Hospital which now accommodates mild mentally ill cases. There are 30 beds.

VENEREAL DISEASE CLINICS

The following number of patients were treated at the Sunderland, South Shields, and Newcastle Clinics during 1967.

	Syphilis		Gonorrhoea		Non-Venereal	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Sunderland	—	—	1	—	5	3
Newcastle	—	—	1	—	3	1
South Shields	—	—	2	2	6	1
<hr/>						
	—	—	4	2	14	5
<hr/>						

BLOOD TRANSFUSION

Mr. Evans, the Regional Organiser, has kindly supplied details of the donor panels and the sessions in Boldon during the year.

Date of Sessions	No. of Donors attending
7th March	105
15th August	111
Donor Panel 31/12/67	190
New Donors bled during 1967	15

(d) EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

The Urban District is served by six General Practitioners residing in the district.

Dr. A. Forbes, 7 Station Terrace, East Boldon.	Boldon 7408/7289
Dr. Keatings, 36 St. Bedes, East Boldon.	Boldon 7168
Dr. Hall, 36 St. Bedes, East Boldon.	Boldon 7168
Dr. J. J. Kinsella, 7 Station Terr., East Boldon.	Boldon 7408/7289
Dr. L. Ingram, Osborne House, West Boldon.	Boldon 7515
Dr. J. W. Salkeld, 4 East Street, Whitburn.	Whitburn 2340

Doctors from South Shields, Jarrow, and Sunderland also attend patients in this district.

SECTION C.
SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT

To the Medical Officer of Health.

Sir,

1967 was notable in the Boldon Urban District for the progress made in the declaration of Clean Air Areas. By the end of the year seven orders had been made and three were in operation.

The general hygiene of the district remained at its normal good level, and details will be found in the appropriate sections.

My thanks are due to the Chairman of the Health Committee, Councillor Mrs. M. Gibson, and the Councillors for their encouragement, to the Health Department Staff, and to the Officers and Staff of all other departments for co-operation so willingly provided in many ways during the year.

R. W. ARMSTRONG,
Chief Public Health Inspector.

WATER SUPPLIES

The district is supplied by the Sunderland and South Shields Water Company, whose Engineer provided the following information:—

Analysis of Water Supply

(1) The water supply of the area has been satisfactory in quantity and quality throughout the year 1967.

(2) Bacteriological examinations have been made during the year from the various deep wells and other sources which constitute the supply, also from reservoirs and consumer taps. The following results were obtained:—

	No. of Samples.	% Free from Non-Faecal Organisms.	% Free from Faecal Organisms.
Reservoirs	105	100	100
Consumer Taps	105	100	100

(3) The water has no detectable plumbo-solvent action.

(4) There has been no contamination and therefore no action has been necessary.

(5) There are 7,987 domestic premises connected to the Company's mains in the area. There are no standpipes in the area.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

1,849 yards of drain were examined during the year, nearly all being private dwellings built in the area. This was about the same as last year.

The work is generally of good standard and mostly of standard glazed pipes, although some pitch fibre pipes are used.

The sewerage of the district appears to be quite adequate. The untreated sewage discharges to the sea and into the tidal waters of the River Tyne.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

There has been no change in the numbers of ash and chemical closets, the few remaining are in parts of the district where there are no sewers, and the cost of installing septic tanks or cesspools would be uneconomic.

—Estimated figures are:—

Type of Closet	1965	1966	1967
Ash Closets and Privy's	14	14	14
Water Closets	9,474	9,591	8,777
Chemical Closets	12	12	12

RIVERS AND STREAMS

Several council houses were flooded during the year by the River Don bursting its banks. The Northumberland Rivers Board have agreed that culverts underneath the roadway are inadequate to cope with flood conditions and will take action in the Spring of 1968, to remedy these conditions.

SCHOOLS

No complaints were received about the sanitary condition of schools in the district. Several schools were treated for the destruction of rats or mice with good results.

Water supplies in Schools are all from service mains of the Sunderland and South Shields Water Company, and are satisfactory.

It was not necessary to take any special action in respect of infectious disease in school children.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The collection of household refuse is carried out by direct labour under the control of the Surveyor in a satisfactory manner. The refuse is disposed of by tipping on Sunderland Corporation Tip which is just outside the southern boundary of the district.

The problem of persons dumping rubbish in roadside ditches and on verges still continues and it is especially annoying when this Council have for many years removed all household refuse regardless of size or difficulty for any person without making a charge.

PIG FARMS

Many pig farmers in the area have buildings which have been constructed by the proprietors without proper consideration for drainage, and the conditions under which the animals are reared in my opinion leave a great deal to be desired. It is especially vexing when one considers that these buildings, because they are agricultural, can be erected in parts of the district where the erection of houses would not be permitted because of the green belt policy. Surely the beauties of the green belt should be preserved against erections like these.

CLEAN AIR ACT 1956

During the year the Council decided to implement its decision to make Clean Air Zones in the district and during the year 7 zones have been confirmed and of these, 3 are now in force.

The Council resolved to convert all the fireplaces in their own properties to burn smokeless fuel and this is proceeding at what, we hope, will be a yearly average of not less than 400 houses. All new developments of both Council and private estates are and will be made Clean Air Zones at the outset.

Several more areas are in the process of preparation and it is hoped that this work can continue steadily until the whole of the district is covered with orders.

RAG FLOCK ACT 1961

There are no registered premises within the Urban District at which upholstering or stuffing of flock filled articles is carried on.

AGRICULTURAL (SAFETY, HEALTH, AND WELFARE PROVISIONS) ACT 1956

No statutory action has been found necessary under the sections enforceable by the Council, during the year.

PET ANIMALS

There is no establishment within the Urban District registered as a pet shop for the sale of pet animals.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963

Two premises in the district are now used for the boarding of cats and dogs. Both are privately owned, and the arrangements made seem to be reasonably good.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT 1949

The table below is in the form required by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

	Type of Property	
	Non Agricultural	Agricultural
Properties Other Than Sewers		
1. Number of properties in district	8527	84
2. a. Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	61	1
b. Number infested by (i) rats	35	1
(ii) mice	17	—
3. a. Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	46	8
b. Number infested by (i) rats	11	3
(ii) mice	4	—
Sewers		
4. Were any sewers infested by rats during the year?	—	2

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT 1960

One complaint of excessive noise from a grain drying plant at a farm was received during the year. The farmer was interviewed and advised to build straw baffles around the outlet ends of the air ducts and this had the effect of absorbing and screening a considerable amount of the noise.

I was satisfied that in fact after this action the noise of the machine at the nearest house was not as loud as the normal noise made by passing traffic at the same house.

FACTORY ACT 1961

82 visits were made to premises registered as factories in this district.

PART 1 OF THE ACT

(1) Inspections for purposes as to health made by Public Health Inspector

	Number on Register	Inspections	Number of written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6, are enforced by Local Authority	5	8	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	32	35	—	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises) ..	11	39	—	—
Total	48	82	—	—

(2) Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	Number of cases in which prosecu- tions were instituted.
Want of cleanliness	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences					
(a) Insufficient	1	—	—	1	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
Total	1	—	—	1	—

Outworkers (Section 133 and 134).

There are no persons registered as outworkers in the district.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The only visits necessary in connection with infectious diseases were in advising contacts who had travelled from abroad on planes or ships in which some passengers had either suffered from or been in contact with smallpox.

DISINFESTATION OF HOUSES

50 requests for assistance in freeing premises infested with vermin were received. Most of the complaints were due to cock-roaches, and spraying and dusting with insecticides was found effective in all these cases, but some were for infestations of clover mites.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

A total of 191 visits were made and no very serious breaches of the Act were discovered. A total of 130 premises are registered; 513 persons are employed in them. 54 defects were found under Act and 53 were remedied.

A summary below shows the type of defects found:—

	Defects	
	Found	Remedied
Section 4—Cleanliness	3	3
Section 6—Temperature	4	4
Section 7—Ventilation	1	1
Section 8—Lighting	3	3
Section 9— Sanitary Accommodation		
Defective	6	6
Section 10— Washing facilities		
Insufficient	4	4
Section 11—Water Supply	—	—
Section 12—Clothing accommodation	2	2
Section 13—Chairs—Shops	3	3
Chairs—Offices	—	—
Section 15—Meal facilities	1	1
Section 16—Floors, passages and stairs	1	1
Section 17—Fencing of Machinery	1	1
Section 24—First Aid Kit	11	11
Section 50—Abstract	13	13
No Registration Form	1	—
	<u>54</u>	<u>53</u>

The tables below are in the form laid down in the Annual Reports Order, 1964, as follows:—

TABLE A—REGISTRATION AND GENERAL INSPECTION

Totals	—	129	104
Office	—	15	4
Retail Shops	—	98	85
Wholesale Shops, warehouses	—	2	1
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	—	13	13
Fuel storage depots	—	1	1
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Class of premises	Number of premises registered during the year.	Total number of registered premises.	Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection.

**TABLE B—NUMBER OF VISITS OF ALL KINDS BY
INSPECTORS TO REGISTERED PREMISES**

190

**TABLE C—ANALYSIS OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN
REGISTERED PREMISES BY WORKPLACE**

Class of Workplace (1)	Number of persons employed (2)
Offices	119
Retail Shops	296
Wholesale departments, warehouses	5
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	90
Fuel storage depots	3
TOTAL	513
Total Males	162
Total Females	351

The remainder of the tables D and E dealing with applications for exemption are nil, and two inspectors are appointed to administer the Act.

REPORTED ACCIDENTS

Workplace	Number Reported	Total No. Investi- gated	Prosecu- tion	Action Recommended		No Action
Offices	—	—	—	—	—	—
Retail Shops	1	1	—	—	—	—
Wholesale Shops	—	—	—	—	—	—
Warehouses	—	—	—	—	—	—
Catering Establish- ments open to Public Canteens	1	1	—	—	—	—
Fuel Storage Depots	1	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	3	2	—	—	—	—

ANALYSIS OF REPORTED ACCIDENTS

	Offices	Retail Shops	Ware- houses	Catering Establish- ments open to public canteens	Fuel Storage Depots
Machinery	—	—	—	—	—
Transport	—	—	—	—	—
Falls of persons	—	1	—	1	1
Stepping or striking against object or person	—	—	—	—	—
Handling goods	—	—	—	—	—
Struck by falling object	—	—	—	—	—
Fires and explosions	—	—	—	—	—
Electricity	—	—	—	—	—
Use of hand tools	—	—	—	—	—
Not otherwise specified	—	—	—	—	—

SECTION D

HOUSING

Good progress was made in rehousing people from the Boldon Colliery redevelopment area, and also from the prefabricated houses at Whitburn.

It is hoped that in 1968 both of these areas will be prepared for redevelopment, although the Council has wisely decided to plan its expenditure on re-building so that costs can be kept to a figure that will not make the rents of new houses beyond the financial resources of the tenants.

Small numbers of individual unfit houses have been dealt with at the same time, but the most difficult problem of finding sites for building in which families from such houses can be accommodated, is one which in a very few years will be apparently insoluble.

HOUSING ACT 1961

This deals with houses in multiple occupation and there are no houses in the district to which the Act applies.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

The Council are still encouraging property owners to improve their houses with the assistance of grants.

Unfortunately only owner/occupiers show any interest in these schemes and the value of it is lost when adjoining properties are not kept in a very good state of repair.

The repair sections of all the Acts should be revised so as to strengthen the powers of Local Authorities.

One serious difficulty encountered was the case of houses owned by persons who were financially insolvent and unable to pay the rates on their properties let alone pay the cost of repair.

STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

Public Health Acts

Number of houses inspected	....	....	....	272
Number of visits made	....	....	....	296

Under Housing Acts

Number of houses inspected	....	....	....	79
Number of visits made	....	....	....	119
Cases of overcrowding investigated	....	....	....	—
Number of new houses built and occupied during the year	....	....	....	104
Total number of visits made in connection with the above	....	....	....	415

		Total since 1954
Number of houses demolished or closed	.... 25	267
Number of persons displaced	.... 147	887
Number of families rehoused	.... 56	261
Number of houses repaired under the Public Health Act after formal notices by Local Authority	.... 12	
Number of houses repaired under the Housing Act after formal notices by the Local Authority	.... Nil	
Number of houses repaired as a result of informal action	.... 45	
Houses at which other matters were remedied under the Public Health Act	.... 4	
Total number of defects remedied	.... 234	
Total number of dwellings on Rate Book at year end	.... 7727	
Boldon Urban District council houses	.... 2822	
Durham County Council houses	.... 26	
Agricultural houses	.... 84	
Private houses	.... 4879	

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no common lodging houses in this district.

CARAVAN SITES

There are three sites in the district which are licensed for use during the summer months for holiday purposes. The largest has about 65 caravans, the next about 14, and the third 3. They are all on farm lands and the farmers are responsible for the provision of water supply, water closets and arrangements for the deposit and collection of refuse.

SECTION E

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955

360 visits were made to the 115 premises in the district in which food is prepared, stored or sold. The standard of most of these premises is good. They are roughly classified as follows but certain businesses deal in one or more main lines.

Confectioners	.... 88	Fresh Fish	.... 5
Butchers	.... 13	Fish Fryers	.... 5
Cafe	.... 2	Grocers	.... 34
Canteens	.... 4	Greengrocers	.... 9
Chemists	.... 6	Licensed Clubs	.... 6
Public Houses	.... 14	Off Licences	.... 10

FOOD HYGIENE GENERAL REGULATIONS 1960 SECTION 'C'

Number of premises	....	....	....	....	....	116
Number of premises fitted to comply with Regulation 15	....	....	....	....	....	116
Number of premises to which Regulation 19 applies	....	....	....	....	....	89
Number of premises fitted to comply with Regulation 19	....	....	....	....	....	89

SECTION "D" POULTRY INSPECTION

There are no processing premises in the district.

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS

As far as can be ascertained there are about 29 milk dealers in the district.

MILK SAMPLES

Durham County Council take samples of milk in this district and during the year the following results were obtained:—

Un- treated	Past.	Ster.	M.B.		Phos.	Turb.	Biol.	Anti bio
			Passed	Failed				
71	47	27	104	13	48	27	15	70

Two samples which were the subject of complaints from customers were reported for legal action, but this had not taken place by the end of the year.

LIQUID EGG (PASTEURISATION) REGULATIONS 1963

There are no premises in this district at which pasteurisation of liquid egg products takes place.

MEAT INSPECTION

There are no premises in the district used for the slaughter of livestock, and it has therefore, been necessary to inspect only small quantities of meat in retail shops, on routine visits and sometimes at the request of a butcher. It was not necessary to condemn any meat as unfit

OTHER FOODS

No difficulty is encountered in securing the surrender and destruction of foodstuffs which are unfit for human consumption. Most of the tradesmen seek advice on any food which is doubtful, and willingly surrender any which is unfit. All the businesses are retail, and it has not been necessary to examine any very large stocks of food. The following foodstuffs were surrendered and destroyed:—

35 lbs. tinned meats, etc.
144 tins foodstuffs.
9 boxes melons.

SALE OF UNFIT FOODSTUFFS

A complaint was received about the sale to a customer of an apple pie which was found to be mouldy. On investigation we were satisfied that the article must have been in the shop for not less than five weeks.

At the subsequent court proceedings the shopkeeper pleaded guilty to selling food which was unfit for human consumption and was fined £10 and costs.

ADULTERATION OF FOOD

Durham County Council are the responsible Authority for the administration of the sections of the Food and Drugs Act which deals with adulteration and abstraction of substances from food.

The Weights and Measures Department carry out the duties of Sampling Officers, and during the year 1967, 92 were taken, of which 30 were of milk. All were found to be genuine.

PETROLEUM ACT 1928

27 visits were made during the year, and there are now 25 licensed premises in the district.

The Durham County Fire Prevention Department advises on the condition of every storage place, and each licensee was requested to comply with the Department's recommendations

SHOPS ACT 1928

The following table shows the position with regard to the statutory notices which should be displayed:—

No. of shops in the district	....	....	....	139
Nos. displaying notice of half holiday	....	....	....	77
Nos. not displaying notice of half holiday	....	....	....	13
Nos. displaying notice of Sunday trading	....	....	....	6
Nos. not displaying notice of Sunday trading	....	....	....	4
Nos. displaying notice of assistants half-holiday	....	....	....	12
Nos. not displaying notice of assistants half-holiday	....	....	....	8
Nos. displaying notice of Sunday employment and holidays	....	....	....	8
Nos. not displaying notice of Sunday employment and holidays	....	....	....	5

SECTION F

Report of the Medical Officer of Health on the Prevalence and Control of Infectious and Other Diseases

Measles

The usual bi-ennial epidemic pattern was maintained and as expected there was a substantial decrease in the number of cases notified; there being 30 cases compared with 128 during the previous year. The cases notified during 1967 occurred in the regular pattern throughout the year which showed peaks in the winter and spring months.

Whooping Cough

There were 12 cases notified during the year compared with 6 cases the previous year. There is no doubt of the value of immunisation against this disease which is offered both by General Practitioners and Local Authority Clinics, and it is hoped that more mothers will avail themselves of this aid to the health of their children.

Dysentery

There were 10 cases of Sonne Dysentery notified during 1967 compared with 11 cases during the previous year. This is still a satisfactorily low figure in view of the fact that Sonne Dysentery to some extent is endemic in the area; no doubt many mild or sub-clinical cases are never brought to light.

Food Poisoning

It is again pleasing to record that there were only 2 cases of Food Poisoning. Improved standards of hygiene are evident in both catering establishments and in the domestic sphere, and it is most important that these be maintained.

Poliomyelitis

There were no cases of Poliomyelitis notified during the year. Continued propaganda is therefore essential to enable this disease to be finally eliminated from our midst.

Tuberculosis

There were 8 cases of Respiratory Tuberculosis notified in 1967 compared with 16 cases during the previous year. There was 1 case of non-respiratory Tuberculosis notified during the year. This is a very satisfactory state, but it cannot be too strongly emphasized that every child should be fully immunised against this disease as this is the only possible way of keeping it at bay.

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE
Summary for five year period, 1963-1967

	Population.	Diphtheria.	Erysipelas.	Scarlet Fever.	Pulmonary T.B.	Non-Pulmonary T.B.	Food Poisoning	Pneumonia.	Puerperal Pyrexia.	Measles.	Whooping Cough.	Poliomyelitis.	Paratyphoid.	Dysentery.
1963	24,310	—	—	11	7	2	—	5	—	283	6	—	—	3
1964	25,460	—	—	9	4	3	1	6	1	161	18	—	—	12
1965	25,960	—	—	3	5	5	1	5	—	94	8	—	—	2
1966	26,120	—	—	3	16	—	—	2	—	128	6	—	—	11
1967	22,760	—	—	—	8	1	2	2	—	30	12	—	—	10

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1967

Diseases	All Ages									Increase or Decrease 1967			
	Under 1	1-2	3-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65 and over.				
										Cases admitted to hospital	Total 1967	Total 1966	
Tuberculosis Respiratory	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	5	1	—	8	16	—3
Tuberculosis Non-Respiratory	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—4
Dysentery	2	1	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	4	10	11	—1
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—3
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	2	0
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	+2
Whooping Cough	3	2	4	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	6	+6
Measles	3	9	6	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	30	128	—98
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0
											65	166	—101

INFECTIOUS DISEASES — CASES NOTIFIED DURING 1967

Diseases	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Tuberculosis Respiratory	1	1	2	—	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	8
Tuberculosis Non-Respiratory	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Dysentery	—	2	—	—	—	—	6	2	—	—	—	—	10
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	2
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	8	—	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12
Measles	9	4	9	4	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	30
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Total													65

TUBERCULOSIS

The table below shows the incidence of new cases and of deaths from tuberculosis over the last 20 years.

Year	Population	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
		New Cases	Deaths	New Cases	Deaths
1948	16,310	11	4	5	3
1949	16,870	16	6	6	1
1950	17,100	20	7	8	1
1951	16,740	18	5	4	2
1952	17,150	19	2	1	—
1953	17,440	16	2	3	—
1954	17,600	16	6	3	—
1955	18,020	5	5	2	1
1956	18,390	18	3	5	1
1957	18,960	14	2	2	—
1958	19,540	9	1	2	—
1959	20,230	13	2	2	—
1960	20,810	9	—	2	—
1961	22,540	9	1	—	—
1962	23,280	23	1	3	—
1963	24,310	7	—	2	—
1964	25,460	4	1	3	—
1965	25,960	5	1	5	—
1966	26,120	13	1	—	—
1967	22,760	8	—	1	—

F. & A. Tolson, Limited,
Bede Industrial Estate,
Jarrow. Tel. 897681